

Under the provisions of Section 413.031 of the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, Title 5, Subtitle A of the Texas Labor Code, effective June 17, 2001 and Commission Rule 133.305, titled Medical Dispute Resolution-General, and 133.307, titled Medical Dispute Resolution of a Medical Fee Dispute, a review was conducted by the Division regarding a medical fee dispute between the requestor and the respondent named above. This dispute was received on 3/20/03.

I. DISPUTE

Whether there should be reimbursement for office visit – 99245, denied for “N” – not documented and x-ray review – 76140-26, denied as “G” global. Both services were dated 10/4/02.

II. RATIONALE

The Medical Fee Guideline, Evaluation/Management Ground Rules (IX)(D)(1) states, regarding outpatient consultations (99241-99245), “Follow-up visits in the consulting doctor’s office or other outpatient facility initiated by the consulting doctor are reported using office visit codes for established patients (99211-99215).” The medical report of 10/4/02 states the visit was a follow-up visit and therefore (99245) was not documented. Reimbursement of 99245 is not recommended.

The CPT code descriptor for 76140-26 is for reimbursement of an x-ray review. The carrier denied this service on the basis of “G” – global to another procedure. The EOB did not identify to which service 76140-26 was global.

Rule 133.304(c) states, “... A generic statement that simply states a conclusion... with no further description of the reason for the reduction or denial of payment does not satisfy the requirement of this section...”

As the carrier failed to state to which service 76140-26 was global, reimbursement of \$42.00 is recommended.

III. DECISION

Based upon the review of the disputed healthcare services within this request, the Division has determined that the requestor **is** entitled to reimbursement for 76140-26 in the amount of **\$42.00**. Pursuant to Sections 402.042, 413.016, 413.031, and 413.019 the Division hereby ORDERS the Respondent to remit **\$42.00** plus all accrued interest due at the time of payment to the Requestor within 20 days receipt of this Order.

The above Findings, Decision and Order are hereby issued this 29th day of September, 2004.

Noel L. Beavers
Medical Dispute Resolution Officer
Medical Review Division